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Lead ... For God Sake

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Lead For God Sake By: Todd Gongwer

This book was a parable about leadership and life in general. It starts out with a coach named Coach Rocker. He is a great coach and has won many games and this year looks to be his best year yet. He has a lot of star players and thinks they should win the championship. Unfortunately, his team starts to lose and he doesn't know how to fix the problem. He goes back to what has worked for years by punishing his team for losing and it doesn't work. He is so frustrated he goes to a friend and they talk together trying to solve the problems they are going through together. They talk about how people are motivated by rewards and punishments and decide this is how they should solve their problems. After a week the teams isn't doing any better and the school janitor comes to talk with the coach. He tells him everything happens for a reason then leaves it at that. Soon the coach is frustrated and exhausted with the situation and finally decides to see how he can fix his problems by talking to the Janitor Jim. Jim and Coach talk and Coach starts to learn but before he knows it Jim and his conversations have to end. Coach has his boys work hard and try the new techniques he's thought of to motivate his players but it doesn't work. At this point a star player for Coach Rocker punches a locker and is out for the rest of the season. Coach goes to Jim and they talk some more about leadership. Soon Coach realizes that the only way to motivate others is to put God first and act for him in all aspects of his coaching. After this realization coach and the team start over and make it to the playoffs. Since Jim was their mentor the team adores him and after the game they are worried that he is taken to the hospital. Later while the team celebrates coach has to tell them that Jim has passed away. They go to the service and find out that that Jim was a very wealthy man and one of the best business leaders. This inspires Coach's friend to turn his life around. I loved this book because it spoke to many aspects of the human condition. It shows how people often look for the way that was easy or the way it was done before and how we are afraid of change. I found it very helpful because it showed me that we all struggle with change and our faith but together we can figure it out. Also it spoke to the fact that people are motivated by many different things like money or power but the best motivator is oneself and their values.